

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and the following remarks are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

The abstract of the disclosure has been amended to be in compliance with MPEP §608.01(b).

Claims 11 and 13 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The allowability of the subject matter recited in claims 11 and 13 is acknowledged.

Claims 1 and 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,064,563 to Yamada et al. (hereinafter "Yamada"). For at least the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

In regard to claim 1, Yamada fails to disclose "an electrically-insulating layer formed on said metallic casing to cover at least a region extending from the open end of said metallic casing to a recess provided for fixing said opening-sealing plate." The Office action stated that an insulating member 36 of Yamada corresponds to this limitation, but element 36 is simply attached on one end portion of each of a pair of metallic rivets 35 (col. 3, ln. 1- col. 4, lns. 5) and does not extend from an open end of the metallic casing to a recess provided for fixing an opening-sealing plate as claimed.

In regard to claim 27, Yamada does not teach the pretreatments applied to the metallic casing.

In regard to claim 28, Yamada discloses that the insulating member 36 is molded by phenol resin (col. 4, ln. 1) instead of anodized aluminum.

Claims 5 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada. Claims 5 and 26 depend from independent claim 1 whose limitations are not fully disclosed by Yamada. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the reasons stated above.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 38029.

Respectfully submitted,  
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